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Consolidation Pays Off: 59-in-1 Budget Request Saves \$43 Million

Consolidation of health agencies means \$43 million in savings for the state in the fiscal year (FY) beginning July 1. Dr. Charles C. Mary, Jr., LHSRSA Commissioner, who asked for a \$555 million FY '74 budget on March 28 told the Legislative Budget Committee that separate requests from the 59 consolidated agencies would have totalled \$598 million.

Even with the savings, the Louisiana Health and Social and Rehabilitation Services Administration's request exceeds FY '73's spending by 5.8 per cent.

Dr. Mary said \$223 million of the requested budget would be state funds, with the rest coming from federal and other sources.

Since the agency is still in the process of forming itself into a whole, he asked for authority to transfer funds between budget units, a practice not usually allowed an agency head.

"We must have a certain amount of flexibility in using budgeted funds where the greatest needs lie," Dr. Mary said. "You can readily understand that in a reorganization of such magnitude it is difficult to project to the last dollar what will be needed in each program."

Of the total requested budget, the LHSRSA chief said he wanted \$104 million to operate hospitals, an increase of \$9.0 million. "Included in this figure is over \$1 million for the not fully open Lake Charles Charity Hospital," he said.

He asked for a \$3.6 million increase for mental hospitals, community mental health programs and alcoholism and narcotic programs and for a \$3.2 million increase for treatment of mentally retarded children. Dr. Mary asked for \$357 million for welfare, a 14 per cent increase.

"We are now providing 56 per cent of need in the aid to dependent children's program and an addition \$9 million will take us to 75 per cent of need, which represents an increase of 687 in the number of families served," Dr. Mary said, adding that with an extra \$22 million he could provide 100 per cent of need.

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GOVERNOR'S LPHA AWARD 'SPECIAL'

Governor Edwin Edwards added a bright chapter to Louisiana history on July 25, 1972 when he signed Act 253 into law.

The Act which passed 91-0 in the House and 34-3 in the Senate fulfilled a campaign promise by the Governor.

During his 1971-72 campaign, Governor Edwards stressed the need to streamline and modernize state government and promised to co-ordinate, combine and merge over 200 agencies, boards and commissions.

The first such consolidation (59 health-related agencies) became the Louisiana Health and Social and Rehabilitation Services Administration (LHSRSA).

Five months later (on Saturday, January 20) Governor Edwards announced that health care services for the indigent would be the No. 1 priority of his administration.

In recognition of these two outstanding contributions to public health, the executive committee of Louisiana Public Health Association (composed of almost 800 professionals in voluntary and public health agencies) approved a special plaque to be presented to the Governor. It will be the first "special" award given by LPHA in its 25-year history.

The plaque will consist of the photograph on this page (8 x 10 size) reproduced in silver aluminum.

Original plans to present the plaque at the LPHA Convention Award Dinner April 26 were changed because the Governor will be out of the country on that date.

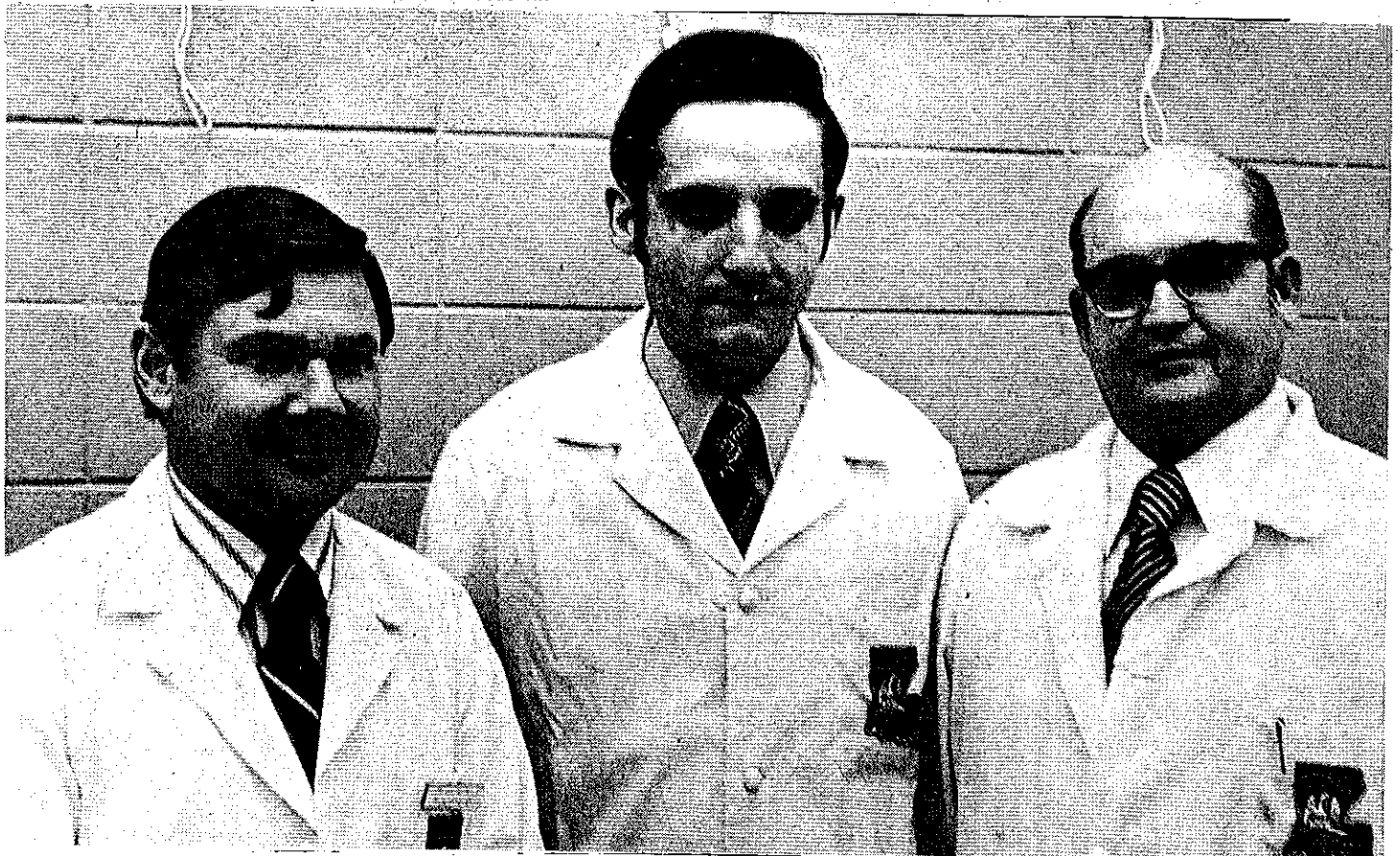
The special award, which was scheduled for presentation April 17, contains the following inscription:



To: Governor Edwin W. Edwards, "The Man", who said "Do It" . . . then provided the leadership, direction and legislative guidance to make Louisiana the first state in the U. S. to fully implement the consolidation of its health, welfare and social services . . . and because you are the first Louisiana governor in history to make health care for the indigent the top priority of your administration . . . this plaque is presented by the Louisiana Public Health Association at its annual convention in Baton Rouge on April 26, 1973 in recognition of what it considers to be the two most outstanding contributions to public health since 1855 when the first state Board of Health in the U. S. was created in Louisiana.



Governor Edwards pins a specially designed sterling silver "Superdoc" pin on the lapel of Dr. Charles C. Mary, Jr., LHSRSA commissioner, in a surprise feature following LHSRSA board meeting March 23. Board member Dr. Donald J. Landry had the pin made for the occasion.



Participants in dedication ceremonies of Charity Hospital's renovated Blood Bank and Newborn Units are, left to right, Dr. Juan Washington, director, Neonatal Unit, Dr. Isadore D. Brickman, hospital director, and Dr. David S. de Jongh, director of the Blood Bank (Department of Hemotherapy).



Laboratory technicians in the new Department of Hemotherapy at Charity Hospital are shown here with (l to r) Dr. Isadore D. Brickman, hospital director, Governor Edwards, and Blood Bank director Dr. David S. de Jongh.

Governor Dedicates Blood Bank, Newborn Unit

Governor Edwin Edwards dedicated Charity Hospital's new Department of Hemotherapy (Blood Bank) and Neonatal (Newborn) Unit Friday, March 23.

Dedication ceremonies were held in the hospital's School of Nursing Education Building following the meeting there of the Advisory Board of the Louisiana Health and Social and Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Dr. Isadore D. Brickman, hospital director, said Charity is the first hospital in the U.S. to establish a Department of Hemotherapy (the rational use of blood components).

The Newborn Unit combines three types of infant care in one unit which Dr. Juan Washington, director, said allows maximum utilization of nursing personnel. **The three sections provide 100 beds for healthy newborns, 64 for sick and for premature infants requiring normal care, plus 10 intensive care beds.** Physical arrangement, infant care, and the latest modern equipment follow the American Academy of Pediatrics standards and recommendations.

The Hemotherapy department includes an administrative area with an unfinished conference room, four laboratories and storage area. Dr. David S. de Jongh, director, said that in these units **blood from the first floor donor room is processed, cross-matched, tested for tissue compatibility, frozen, and stored.**

The Blood Bank also has an immunochemistry unit for identification of immune globulin.

The School of Blood Banking, which opened July 1, offers full post-doctoral training to M.D.s applying for the specialty.

The two facilities, which adjoin each other on the 10th floor west wing, were remodeled with 1966 state bond issue funds at a cost of \$800,000.

Male Nursing Careers Break Discrimination Barrier

Dr. John D. McCluhan is a nurse.

He is also director of the Northwestern State University College of Nursing Degree Program at Confederate Memorial Medical Center (CMMC).

And he wants more men to choose nursing as a career.

Dr. McCluhan is concerned with helping others "to break a barrier that is discrimination in reverse."

Of 210 nursing students at CCMC, 19 are men and 25 are "from other minority groups," according to CCMC News.

The nursing program leading to an associate degree prepares students to pass the state board licensing examination.



Mrs. Anna N. Friloux (top left) who replaced Mrs. Elva Huckabay as Institutional Counselor in the Monroe District HCS program, received her B.A. degree from Northeast Louisiana University. Larry Fitzgerald, Ouachita PHU's newest sanitarian, received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Louisiana Tech. Members of the Community Health Nursing Section, Shreveport District Nurses Assn., held a tea March 1 at the Caddo-Shreveport Health Unit in observance of Professional Nurse Week. Shown left to right: Donna Law, S. Carney, Alise Roe, Kay Williamson, Rachel Rhinehart, and Ethel Kelly. Mrs. Madeline Scarborough, Union PHU aide, plans to catch up on reading and other hobbies after 19 years of service. She is shown at her retirement party. At left is Miss Georgia Wright, R.N., coordinator for Health Start in Tangipahoa and St. Helena parishes.



JAMBALAYA....

JAMBALAYA salutes the editors of the Eunice high school newspaper, *The Banner*. When a recent health millage proposal was defeated, they called upon St. Landry Parish voters to find out about the many services of the parish health unit and urged them to vote YES when a new election is called . . . Featuring "their campaign against communicable diseases," the *Monroe News-Star* published a photograph of Miss Lillian Edwards, health educator, W. E. Hicks, CDI, and Glenda Caballero, PHN, discussing bi-weekly VD treatment sessions at the Ouachita Parish Health Unit. The picture illustrated a lengthy article giving the facts about the prevention, cause, and the cure of venereal diseases . . . Mrs. Jewell P. Lowe, executive director of SLERC (see story in this issue), says the Center has received 2,459 calls since its "Operation Venus" VD control program began in September . . . Mrs. Helen W. Watson, R. D., president of the Louisiana Home Economics Association, praised Dr. Ramson K. Vidrine, state health officer, for his "informative talk to the Louisiana Dairy Products Association." . . . M. E. Kossack, head, Health Education, is grateful for emergency transportation provided by Grant PHU sanitarian Raymond C. Jeane when the bus he was riding to Natchitoches broke down in Colfax, leaving him stranded . . . Dr. Guillermo Vasquez's 65th birthday was the occasion for a gala picnic hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Vasquez for staff of the Calcasieu-Lake Charles Health Unit . . . Elmo Blaize, Jr., CDI, a frequent contributor to this column, takes after his father, a retired engineer living in New Iberia, who prompted a local feature on purple martin swallows . . . Susan Van Hook Williams, daughter of Dr. Pattle Van Hook, Caddo-Shreveport health unit director, made the Dean's list at Vanderbilt University where she is majoring in chemistry . . . Miss Lillian Edwards, regional health educator, left April 1 for a three-week trip to the Orient . . . Gov. Edwards named LHSRSA board member Mrs. Jewell P. Lowe to fill a vacancy on the state's Advisory Council on Mental Health . . . Two public health workers will participate in the Louisiana Safety Council program at the Marriott in New Orleans April 8-10. Mrs. Mary Dilts, area health educator, will speak on "VD, A New Focus and National Problem," before the Home and Recreation Section. Sheldon J. Hanneman, industrial hygienist, will join the Industrial-Petrochemical Section's panel discussion, "Target Health Hazards." . . . Mrs. Ann Goodman, Nursing secretary, who broke an ankle in an office fall, graduated from crutches to her grandfather's 100-year-old ivory and ebony cane . . . Mrs. Dorothy K. Maher, recently retired secretary to the state health officer, was named "personality of the week" by the Delta News. "Your home town (Lake Providence) remembers you, we are proud of you," said the newspaper salute . . . Joseph H. Fontenot, Air Control engineer, has resigned to practice law in Opelousas . . . Lt. Col. Nolen B. Stanford (son of Mrs. Juana B. Stanford, typist-clerk, Pierre the Pelican program) recently became the new Chief of Safety of the Air Force unit at Alconbury, England. Col. Stanford, a command pilot who flew 100 combat missions while stationed in Thailand in 1967, holds the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal with 15 oak leaf clusters. Before his present assignment he was Chief of Flight Safety at Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas. He is serving a four-year hitch.



Dr. Prentiss Love, Grambling College's VD hot line supervisor, displays a health department poster at an inservice training program for the volunteer telephone operators. Materials were furnished by Henry Hutson, Caddo-Shreveport educator.



About 30 poisonous plants were collected, identified, and displayed at New Orleans Charity Hospital by Mrs. Oscar Paysee, hospital pharmacist, during National Poison Prevention Week. Viewers were offered the health department's pamphlet "Pretty but POISONOUS."

Dr. Mary, Superboard Dedicate CMMC Outpatient Clinic

Dr. Charles C. Mary, Jr., LHSRSA commissioner, and members of the LHSRSA board dedicated a new outpatient clinic at Confederate Memorial Medical Center in Shreveport February 23.

The ceremony was held following the LHSRSA board meeting at the hospital.

Dr. Rodric M. Yeager, CMMC director, presided. Greetings were given by Dr. Allen Copping, chairman of the LHSRSA board, and by Dr. Edgar Hull, dean of the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport.

Dr. Yeager said the new facility adds 80 per cent more space to the old outpatient clinic. It includes 50 examining rooms, a conference room on every floor, and three laboratories.



Dr. James Russell Romero, at left, area medical consultant for Acadia, Vermilion, and St. Mary parish health units, is pictured with Acadia Parish officials: Mayor Joe Gielen of Crowley, Police Jury president Aaron Cart, Dr. Robert McManus, coroner, Marcus Kirk, clerk, and Fire Chief J. W. Andrus.

paired

Howard J. Ford, son of Mrs. Frances Ford, HCS-PHN, Lafayette District, and the late Howard Ford, and Miss Cheryl Ann Rabalais, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rabalais Sr., in Lafayette, February 24.

Milkmen Go to School

A course on milk pasteurization and control was conducted for sanitarians and milk plant managers at the state office building in New Orleans Feb. 27-March 1.

The course was sponsored by the state health department and conducted by the Cincinnati Training Facility, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in cooperation with FDA's special program branch.

Actual inspection and testing were handled by the Cincinnati training staff.

Speakers included Dr. Ramson K. Vidrine, state health officer, Raleigh J. Richard, head of the Division of Milk and Dairy Products, J. H. Ghelon, professor of dairying, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, R. E. Adams, milk consultant; R. B. Carson, director of the Cincinnati Training Facility, and H. L. Falg, training officer, FDA.



Miss Odie Lee Gossett, PHN-HCS, was a judge for the beauty contest in which Miss Aleta Gomez was chosen "Junior Miss Dream Girl" of the Jefferson Parish Bleu/Raeder's Drug & Bugle Corps.

Retarded Children Learn Self-Care

Columbia State School superintendent Frank White reports good success in teaching basic self-care skills to children who are profoundly or severely retarded.

He said children are maintaining their skills after returning to their homes, and they are able to take part in Day Care programs.

The behavior shaping technique used in the school is discussed with the children's parents at regular meetings, the superintendent said.

Diabetic Children Should Apply Now for Summer Camp

Applications are being taken for diabetic children to attend the summer camp sponsored by the Diabetes Association of Greater New Orleans.

Camp Singing Water, a YMCA accredited summer camp, at Holden, La., is open to diabetic children between grades three and nine. Camp dates are July 22-August 4. The deadline for return of all application forms is June 22.

A medical staff of physicians, nurses, dietitians, and laboratory technicians will provide continuous supervision.

Dr. Jerome Ryan, associate professor of medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine, and Dr. Carmen Posada, public health and pediatric physician, announced that new U-100 insulin will be used exclusively.

Members of the dietetic planning committee are Mrs. Pauline Hunter, president of the New Orleans Dietetic Association, Mrs. Mary Louise Black, public health nutritionist, and Miss Sheridan Sylvester, Lafayette regional nutritionist, Division of Health Maintenance and Ambulatory Patient Services.

Mrs. Hunter and Miss Sheridan will spend one week each at the camp, supervising meal preparation and teaching the children about their diabetic diets. They will be assisted by six dietetic interns.

Recreational activities will include swimming, boating, fishing, horseback riding, archery, crafts, and other events.

For information, write to the Association, Room 301, 816 Howard Ave., New Orleans 70113, or Tel: 522-2389.

N.O. Charity Offers Full Psychological Services

For the first time in its history, a full range of psychological services is offered at Charity Hospital of Louisiana in New Orleans.

Under the Department of Psychiatry, psychology services are divided among the Psychiatry Inpatient and Out-patient Services, the Alcoholism Services Unit, and other hospital services.

"The inclusion of clinical psychology service to the evaluation and treatment of psychiatric and alcoholic patients is a significant step in implementing comprehensive mental health care at Charity," said Dr. Isadore D. Brickman, hospital director.

The Psychology Services staff includes Dr. Pamela Hoblit, Ph.D., Charity's first full-time clinical psychologist; Robley Morrison, M.A., psychologist; and Mrs. Shirley Thomas, psychometrician.

Dr. Irving Kauffman, Ph.D., meets regularly with the staff as a consultant. Dr. A.C. Smith, Ph.D., also a clinical psychologist, is assistant to Dr. William C. Super, director of Psychiatry.

Psychological testing and evaluation is used in making recommendations for treatment and referral. The Psychology Service initiated and operates the intermediate treatment phase (primarily group therapy) of the Alcoholism Services unit.



Dr. Herbert E. Cannon, Livingston PHU director, presents a plaque to Mrs. Beatrice Lilly in honor of 18 years of service as health unit secretary.

Trygg Wins Perry Award

John E. Trygg, assistant state health officer for environment, and director of the Bureau for Environmental Health, is the recipient of the S. L. Perry Award naming him the outstanding individual in the promotion of water and sewerage works in Louisiana.

The award was presented by the Louisiana Conference of Superintendents and Operators of Waterworks and Sewerage.

noble honored

William J. Noble, assistant head of regional laboratories, Shreveport, has been awarded a Silver Certificate by the Cincinnati Training Center, Food and Drug Administration, U. S. Public Health Service, in recognition of his 25 years of participation in their training program.

It was the first such certificate to be awarded by the Center.

Mr. Noble, who attended the first course in April 1948, is the last certified Milk Laboratory Survey Officer of the original group still serving in that capacity.

Screen, Cousins Appointed

The appointments of James P. Screen as LHSRSA general counsel, and Richard A. "Dick" Cousins as LHSRSA information officer were announced by Dr. Charles C. Mary, Jr., commissioner.

They will continue to provide Legal and Information services within their own Division of Health Maintenance and Ambulatory Patient Services.



Bobby Joe McConathy, Caddo-Shreveport sanitarian, death of father, February 28.

Mrs. Rosa Belle Willis, St. Mary PHU aide, Franklin, death of mother, Mrs. Sarah Clark, March 9.

Family, students, colleagues, and friends of Sr. Laurentia Walsh, D.C., Charity Hospital's "Angel in White" for 37 years, who died March 1 at age 84.

April Cancer Clinics Offer Pap Tests and Oral Examinations

The St. Tammany Parish Health Unit will hold its annual cancer control clinics each Tuesday during April (Cancer Control Month) in Slidell, and each Friday (except Good Friday, April 20) in Covington.

Dr. Herbert E. Cannon, director, urged women who have not had a "Pap" test within the past year to come in for a free examination.

In New Orleans, free oral cancer examinations were offered during March at mobile vans stationed in Oakwood Shopping Center and Schwegmann's in Gentilly.

Oral cancer clinics are scheduled in Jefferson Parish and at Charity Hospital, Dept. of Surgery, April 6, 13, and 27. (Telephone 522-8850)

Sponsors are the Cancer Association of Greater New Orleans, a United Fund agency, in cooperation with the LSU School of Dentistry and the American Society for Preventive Dentistry.

Happy Birthday, SLERC

The Southwest Louisiana Education and Referral Center Inc. (SLERC) celebrated its 7th anniversary February 28.

In its seven years of operation, estimates founder-director Mrs. Jewell P. Lowe, SLERC has made approximately 400,000 calls on behalf of more than 30,000 families in Lafayette and Acadiana.

The referral center handles individual problems, coordinates area services, and brings community leaders and resources together in developing new programs.

Ms. Rachal's Students Aid Drinkers

Health "superboard" member, Mrs. Louise Rachal, also a faculty member in the Tulane school of social work, is currently supervising 23 graduate students who work in the New Orleans Safety Action Project (ASAP).

The students conduct group therapy sessions for excessive drinkers (the classification between social and problem drinkers).

Mrs. Rachal said that the program gives the students useful experience and "hopefully, aids excessive drinkers in their rehabilitation before drinking damages their lives permanently."

State School Publishes Paper

Publication of a new school newspaper, *The Belle Chasse Gazette*, has been announced by Bruce K. Easley, editor and director of the Education and Training Division of Belle Chasse State School.

The *Gazette*, scheduled for publication April 2, replaces the former *Belle Chasse Express*. Persons wishing to receive the newspaper should write to the editor, Rt. 1, Box 680, Belle Chasse 70037.

TB-RDA Announces Change

Effective in May, American Lung Association will be the new name of the National Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.

The renamed health agency will retain its registered trademark, the double-barred cross, and its slogan, "It's a matter of life and breath."

Several state and local affiliations, including the Louisiana TB&RDA, have announced their name changes to conform to the national action.

Dr. Seale Appoints Action Group

Dr. A. L. Seale, superintendent of Central Louisiana State Hospital, has appointed an Affirmative Action Program Committee to assist him in carrying out his duties as Equal Employment Officer.

The committee will develop and insure follow-up of specific policies, procedures, and programs concerning employment, compensation, and promotion, consistent with federal and state laws, and hospital policies.

Tokens Reward Good Behavior

Children in Music Therapy and Education classes at Belle Chasse State School will be given tokens for desirable behavior: sitting quietly, listening to teachers, etc. For undesirable behavior, the tokens - which may be used to redeem (buy) privileges - are taken away.

The new behavior modification program, called "token economy," is designed to teach the children responsibility for all of their actions, according to Bruce K. Easley, the school's Director of Education and Training.

If the program proves successful, it may be carried into different departments in order to give the children consistent treatment for their behavior, Easley said.

ST. BERNARD HEALTH UNIT FUNDED

The St. Bernard Parish Police Jury has allocated \$45,000 of parish federal revenue sharing funds for major repairs and additions to the parish health unit.

N.O. VD PHONE IS 861- 8181

The new telephone number to call for VD information in the greater New Orleans area is 861-8181.

The 24-hour answer information line, sponsored by the New Orleans City Health Department and manned by Volunteers in Government Responsibility (VIGOR), began operation March 21.

The service gives information primarily on VD diagnosis and treatment facilities.

Volunteers should contact VIGOR at City Hall, or telephone 524-3535.

524-HELP Linked to Charity

The 524-H-E-L-P telephone number which handles emergency calls in the greater metropolitan New Orleans area, with emphasis on alcohol and drug abuse, has been linked by PX line to Charity Hospital.

This enables direct referral, without delay, of emergency calls which would be directed to Charity, according to Ashton Brisolaro, executive director of the Committee on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse for Greater New Orleans.

During evening hours the 524-H-E-L-P number is answered by Charity staff.

Bonin Issues PR Memo

In a public relations memorandum to his state and parish staffs, Garland L. Bonin, director, Division of Income Maintenance, reminded employees that their actions "add to or detract from the agency's operations and objectives."

He recommended that all correspondence be answered promptly, and that telephone calls should be accepted or returned immediately.

NEW FILMS

NOBODY'S VICTIM (20 min., color, sound, 16 mm., jr. high and older) Specific, practical demonstrations of how to avoid assault, injury, harassment, and robbery, and how to deal with them if there's no other choice. Basic precautions for the woman who lives alone, and physical defense skills.

LEAD POISONING - THE HIDDEN EPIDEMIC (10 min., color, sound, 16 mm., high school, all adults) Documents lead poisoning in young children with an authentic case history, comments from physicians and laboratory technicians.

RABIES CLINICS SCHEDULED

The annual series of rabies vaccination clinics for Livingston Parish which began March 22 will continue through April 14.

Schedules were posted in the Denham Springs News.

Gary Crnko, health unit sanitarian, said a veterinarian, Dr. Jimmy B. Smith, would visit almost every area in the parish.

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Two grandchildren, her first, both born in February, made Mrs. Leona A. Berndt, typist-clerk II, Tabulation and Analysis, doubly happy. Daughter Mrs. Bethann Pope presented grandson Eric February 2; son Frank presented granddaughter Christy Lynn February 6.

A girl, 6 lbs. 9 oz., born March 19 to Nanette and Richard Carrizee. Mother is a former public health employee. Proud grandmother is Elvera Beyer, personnel technician.



MCH employees gave a party to honor Mrs. Vera Blanchard, PHU nurse consultant, who retired March 9 after 20 years of service with the health department, and Mrs. Anne Hansen Rogers, hospital nursing consultant, whose resignation after seven years was effective March 15. At top right, CDI Gary Gresham explains Louisiana's VD control programs to Dr. Abimbola Osoba of Nigeria. Dr. Osoba visited public health facilities in February and March as part of his WHO fellowship study of the microbiology of venereal diseases. Bottom row, from left, Clarence M. Colbert, motion picture projector operator, who retired February 28 with 30 years of service, is joined by co-worker Harry Thompson, Florian Leach (retired), and M.E. Kossack, Health Education Division head, who presided at the retirement ceremonies. Mrs. Dean Sowell, PHN, replaced Mrs. Lillian May (retired) at West Carroll PHU. Nursing as a career was the subject of speeches given by Acadia PHU nurses Mrs. Audrey McBride and Mrs. Ruby Reed.



Mrs. Pat Ortego, PHN (left), assists Mrs. Jimmy LaSalle and Mr. Lee Conner, South Cameron Memorial Hospital employees, in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation practice. The training program was a cooperative effort of the parish health unit and Heart Association.

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Rm. 516, State Office Bldg., 325 Loyola Ave.,
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Edwin W. Edwards, Governor
Charles C. May, Jr., M.D., Commissioner
Ramson K. Vidine, M.D., Deputy Commissioner
and State Health Officer
Andrew Hedmes, M.D., Deputy State Health Officer
R.A. "Dick" Cousins, Head, Div. PH Information, Editor
Miss Iris Day, Associate Editor
Ms. Simone Lewis, Typography

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